

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03

H-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01

DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /063 W

-----232038 016713 /46

R 231807Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2301

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0419

E.O. 11652: GDS (DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE)

TAGS: PINR, PINS, PGOV, PFOR, EAID, DO, CU, GY, FR

SUBJ: ONE VIEW OF THE DOMINICAN POLITICAL SCENE

REFS: (A) BRIDGETOWN 252 (NOTAL); (B) BRIDGETOWN 0418 (NOTAL)

1. SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON REPORTED GUYANESE AID (REFTEL B)

ALSO OFFERED FOLLOWING:

(A) ONLY CHANCE TO DELAY INDEPENDENCE RESTS WITH UNIONS WHICH ARE APPARENTLY DRAGGING THEIR FEET ON THE ISSUE. HOWEVER, KEY DOCKERS' UNION LEADERSHIP HAS BREAD-AND-BUTTER ISSUE -- REDUNDANCY PAY FOR STEVEDORES-- IT IS WILLING TO USE AS TRADE OFF FOR

SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE IN NOVEMBER.

(B) ALL DOMINICAN INVITEES TO CUBA (REFTEL A), WITH ONE VOCAL EXCEPTION, RETURNED HOME FULL OF PRAISE FOR "PROSPERITY" THEY ENCOUNTERED. GROUP MAVERICK -- A WOMAN -- IS COMPLAINING THAT HER EFFORTS TO SEE CUBAN REALITY WERE PTLITELY BLOCKED.

(C) DOMINICAN MODERATES PLAN ACCEPT ONE OR TWO PLACES

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TENTATIVELY OFFERED IN NEXT CUBAN TOUR BEING ORGANIZED BY ROSIE DOUGLAS. THEIR PURPOSE IS TO GAIN MORE CREDENCE FOR THEIR OPPOSITION TO DOUGLAS' ADVOCACY OF THE CUBAN MODEL FOR AN INDEPENDENT DOMINICA. (D) RECENTLY ROSIE DOUGLAS AND HIS ADVOCACY OF INDPENDENCE RECEIVED A HOSTILE RECEPTION AT MARIGOT, A COMMUNITY OF SMALL HOLDERS. ALTHOUGH HIS OPPONENTS ARE TAKING CONFORT FROM THIS HOSTILITY SHOWN

DOUGLAS, SOIRCE CLAIMS INCIDENT NOT IMPORTANT AS FARMERS IN THE AREA ARE TRADITIONALLY AGAINST EVERYTHING, "EVEN FREE FERTILIZER."

(E) MICHAEL DOUGLAS (MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS) IS INCREASINGLY MORE CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH BROTHER, ROSIE. SOURCE INTERPRETS THIS AS INDICATION MICHAEL BELIEVES ROSIE'S CAUSE WILL PREVAIL.

(F) FRENCH AID TO DOMINICA IS STALLED WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS SAYING THAT BECAUSE OF POLITICAL CHANGES IN FRANCE, PROMISED ASSISTANCE MUST BE RE-APPROVED. SPORTS STADIUM PROMISED BY FRANCE, HOWEVER, IS EXCEPTION AND PROJECT WILL GO AHEAD.

(G) ROSIE DOUGLAS IS RECEIVING OUTSIDE FINANCING AS WELL AS DOMINICAN GOVT COOPERATION AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT.

(H) ECHOING WHAT OTHERS TELL US, SOURCE CLAIMS THAT IN SPITE OF HIS WEAKNESS, PREMIER JOHN IS STILL THE KEY FIGURE. NOT HAVING SECURED ANY VISIBLE (OR INVISIBLE, FOR THAT MATTER) ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR HIS ISLAND, JOHN IS ON THE SPOT AND WILL COOPERATE WITH WHOM EVER PAYS THE BEST.

2. SOURCE, A BUSINESSMAN WHO IS ON ROSIE DOUGLAS' PUBLIC LIST OF "GOOD CAPITALISTS" NOT TO BE DONE IN FOR "SEVERAL YEARS," ARUGES THAT DOMINICA WILL BECOME A CUBA-GUYANA CLIENT STATE SHORTLY AFTER INDEPENDENCE UNLESS ANOTHER COUNTRY ACTS SOON. HE NOTES PREMIER JOHN'S UPCOMING TRIP TO US (AS A LEADER GRANTEE) AND SAYS JOHN WILL AGAIN REQUEST US ASSISTANCE. BUT, SOURCE CONCLUDES, THAT HASN'T WORKED SO FAR AND THERE'S NO REASON TO ASSUME JOHN WILL GET ANYTHING MORE THAN MORE MEANINGLESS WORDS FROM US EXECUTIVE BRANCH OFFICIALS.

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3. COMMENT: INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THIS SOURCE GENERALLY SQUARES WITH INFORMATION FROM OTHER DOMINICAN AND THIRD COUNTRY SOURCES. ROSIE DOUGLAS' PURPOSE IN OFFERING TRIPS TO CUBA TO DOMINICAN MODERATES IS NOT CLEAR. END COMMENT.
BRITTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation History:
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Subject: ONE VIEW OF THE DOMINICAN POLITICAL SCENE
TAGS: PINR, PINS, PGOV, PFOR, EAID, DO, CU, GY, FR
To: STATE GEORGETOWN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a83a61c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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